



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

22 SEPTEMBER 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Escondido – Police Officer Injured During Axe Attack

(U) An Escondido Police officer was injured after a woman attacked him with an axe Monday morning. According to the Escondido Police Department, officers were called to an area near Valley Parkway and Hickory Street just before 9 a.m. after receiving reports of a woman hacking the sidewalk with a short-handled axe. After arriving, an officer located the woman on the corner of Grape Street and Valley Parkway. As the officer pulled onto Grape Street, the woman ran out into street and swung the axe at the officer through the open window. The woman then ran into the parking lot of the vacant downtown Palomar Medical Center after striking the officer twice in the left arm. The suspect, identified as Aleisha Strickland, 28, was taken into custody shortly after 10 a.m. and later booked into the Vista Detention Facility for attempted murder and assault with a deadly weapon on a peace officer.

SOURCE: 22 September 2021, [ABC San Diego](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – FBI has More Than Doubled Domestic Terrorism Caseload

(U) Washington – The FBI announced it has more than doubled its domestic terrorism caseload from roughly 1,000 to about 2,700 investigations, since spring of 2021. It has also more than doubled the number of personnel devoted to domestic terrorism, fueled by the mammoth caseload stemming from the 6 January attack on the US Capitol, and the mounting threat of extremists harboring racial, ethnic and anti-government grievances. National security officials voiced deep concern about the potential reconstitution of al-Qa'ida in Afghanistan, as well as the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham's Khorasan province (ISIS-K), the offshoot group behind last month's attack in Kabul, which killed 13 US service members and at least 170 Afghans.

SOURCE: 21 September 2021, [CBS News](#)

(U) Michigan – FBI Says Arrest Made in Connection with Bombs Found Outside Michigan Stores

(U) Cheboygan – The FBI announced Tuesday a person has been arrested in connection with two explosive devices found last week outside two northern Michigan cellphone stores. The explosive devices were found Thursday, 16 September with threatening notes outside cellphone stores in Cheboygan and Sault Ste. Marie in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Law enforcement officers and bomb technicians from the Michigan State Police and the FBI responded to the locations and rendered the devices safe, the FBI said. Both devices were packaged inside US Postal Service Priority Mailboxes, sealed with black duct tape, and placed outside the cellphone stores. There were threatening notes addressed to Verizon and AT&T on the top of each box. The notes were signed either "HJ" or "Handcuff Johnny," and the letters "CMT" were written on each box.

SOURCE: 21 September 2021, [WDIV](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Chad – Nine People Killed in Jihadist Attack

(U) Lake Chad – Nine people have died in an attack on a village in the Lake Chad area that is plagued by violence led by jihadist groups, a local governor and an NGO said Tuesday. The region borders Niger,

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Nigeria and Cameroon, and fighters from Boko Haram and a rival splinter group, the Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP), have used it for years as a haven from which to attack troops and civilians. Elements from Boko Haram attacked Kadjigoroum and killed nine people and set fire to the village. Chadian authorities use the Boko Haram label to refer to both militant groups. The head of a local NGO confirmed the attack and death toll at the village, asking not to be identified. In August, 26 soldiers died in a Boko Haram raid on marshy Lake Chad's Tchoukou Telia island, about 120 miles north of the capital, N'Djamena.

SOURCE: 21 September 2021, [Voice of America](#)

(U) France – Appeals Court Lengthens Jihadist's Sentence

(U) Paris – A French appeal court on Tuesday increased an extremist's sentence for his lead role with ISIS in Syria from 30-years to life-in-prison. Frenchman Tyler Vilus had already been convicted for his involvement with ISIS between 2013 and 2015. On appeal, the court also ordered that the 31-year-old serve a minimum of 22-years in prison. He was deemed a "major risk" to reoffend and still denied some of the charges. Vilus led the "Al-MuHajjireen" (the immigrants) brigade, a squadron that tortured and carried out summary executions. He was deported to France after being arrested at an Istanbul airport with a Swiss passport in July 2015 in route to Europe to carry out an attack.

SOURCE: 21 September 2021, [Arab News](#)

(U) Germany – 20-Year-Old Gas Station Attendant Killed in COVID Mask Argument

(U) Idar Oberstein – German politicians expressed shock on Tuesday over the killing of a 20-year-old gas station attendant after an argument about a face mask and said that coronavirus deniers who are willing to use violence will not be tolerated. The killing on Saturday evening in the western town of Idar-Oberstein has made German national headlines as it is one of the only such cases linked to COVID-19 restrictions. Prosecutors said that the gas station cashier had asked a 49-year-old man who wanted to buy beer to comply with the rules and put on a mask. The customer refused and left but returned later wearing a mask, which he pulled down when he approached the cashier who again referred to the rules.

SOURCE: 21 September 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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